

# Why Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning?

- Emergency Management Phases
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning



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# Emergency Management Phases

- **Mitigation** is any sustained action take to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property from a hazard event.
- **Preparedness** includes plans and plan preparations made to save lives and property and to facilitate response operations.
- **Response** includes actions taken to provide emergency assistance, save lives, minimize property damage, and speed recovery immediately following a disaster.
- **Recovery** includes actions taken to return to a normal or improved operating conditions following a disaster.



# Emergency Management Phases

- Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)
  - ◆ A pre-disaster strategic plan written to guide how a community will lower its risk and exposure to disasters
- Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)
  - ◆ A response plan written to demonstrate how a community will respond in the wake of an emergency or a disaster



# What is Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning?

- A process for identifying measures that eliminate the loss of life and property due to natural [and manmade] disasters prior to hazard events.



**mit-i-gate\ 1:** to cause to become less harsh or hostile;  
**2:** to make less severe or painful

**plan-ning\ :** the act or process of making or carrying out plans; *specif:* the establishment of goals, policies and procedures for a social or economic unit



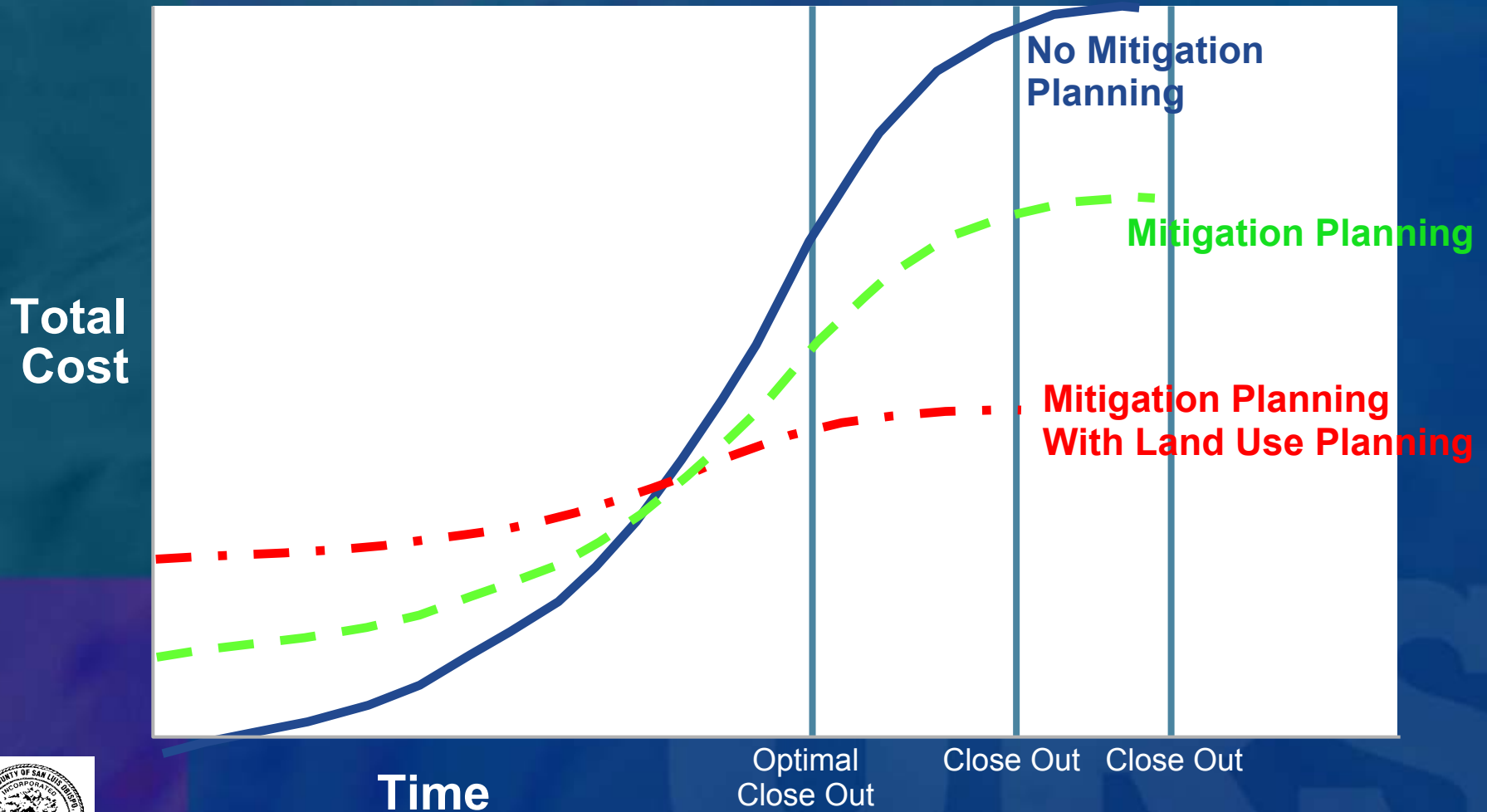
# Summary Benefits of Mitigation Planning

- Leads to cost-effective selection of risk reduction actions
- Builds partnerships
- Contributes to sustainable communities
- Establishes funding priorities
- Maintains funding eligibility



Why Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning?

# Why Hazard Mitigation Planning is Important . . .



# Types of Mitigation Measures

1. Prevention
2. Property Protection
3. Public Education and Awareness
4. Natural Resource Protection
5. Emergency Services
6. Structural Projects





# Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning

- National trends toward more disasters in more places is alarming and costly:
  - ◆ Nearly 1,000 presidential disaster declarations since 1970's
  - ◆ More than 6,000 deaths, 50,000 injuries, hundreds of thousands made homeless (\*)
  - ◆ Billions of \$\$ spent for response and recovery by public agencies and private insurers

\* not including 9/11 attacks





# Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning

- Mitigation measures (structural, non-structural and regulatory) can yield “order of magnitude” returns on investments in terms of direct losses avoided and even more benefits in terms of indirect losses.

***Would you spend \$1 to save \$3? Or \$1 million to save \$3 million?***



# Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning

- Although progress has been made, mitigation planning efforts to date have often been missing the mark:
  - ◆ Post-disaster
  - ◆ Lacking comprehensive and quantitative risk assessments
  - ◆ Lacking basis for making rational decisions to identify and prioritize mitigation measures

***We need to maximize our local, state and national investments***



## Facts

- Signed into law in October 2000 (PL 106-390)
- Section 322 requires a revitalized approach to hazard mitigation through planning
  - ◆ Paradigm shift from focus on response and recovery
- Interim Final Rule for planning provisions published in Federal Register on February 26, 2002
- Revised Interim Final Rule published on October 1, 2002, extending state and local plan adoption date to November 1, 2004
- Handout



# Facts

- Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) required/affects
  - ◆ Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
  - ◆ Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program
  - ◆ Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) programs
  - ◆ Small Business Administration (SBA) loans
- Increased HMGP funding
  - ◆ Enhanced Statewide Plans
- HMGP funding for plan development



# Hazard Mitigation Planning Process

Handout

## organize resources

From the start, communities should focus the resources needed for a successful mitigation planning process. Essential steps include identifying and organizing interested members of the community as well as the technical expertise required during the planning process.



## assess risks

Next, communities need to identify the characteristics and potential consequences of natural hazards. It is important to understand how much of the community can be affected by specific hazards and what the impacts would be for important community assets.



## develop a mitigation plan

Armed with an understanding of the risks posed by natural hazards, communities need to determine what their priorities should be and then look at possible ways to avoid or minimize the undesired effects. The result is a natural hazard mitigation plan and strategy for implementation.



## implement the plan and monitor progress

Communities can bring the plan to life in a variety of ways ranging from implementing specific mitigation projects to changes in the day-to-day operation of the local government. To ensure the success of an on-going program, it is critical that the plan remains effective. Thus, it is important to conduct periodic evaluations and make revisions as needed.





# Hazard Mitigation Planning Process



# Hazard Mitigation Planning Process

- Not a linear process
  - ◆ May revisit issues based on new information or direction
  - ◆ Plan must be updated at least every five years



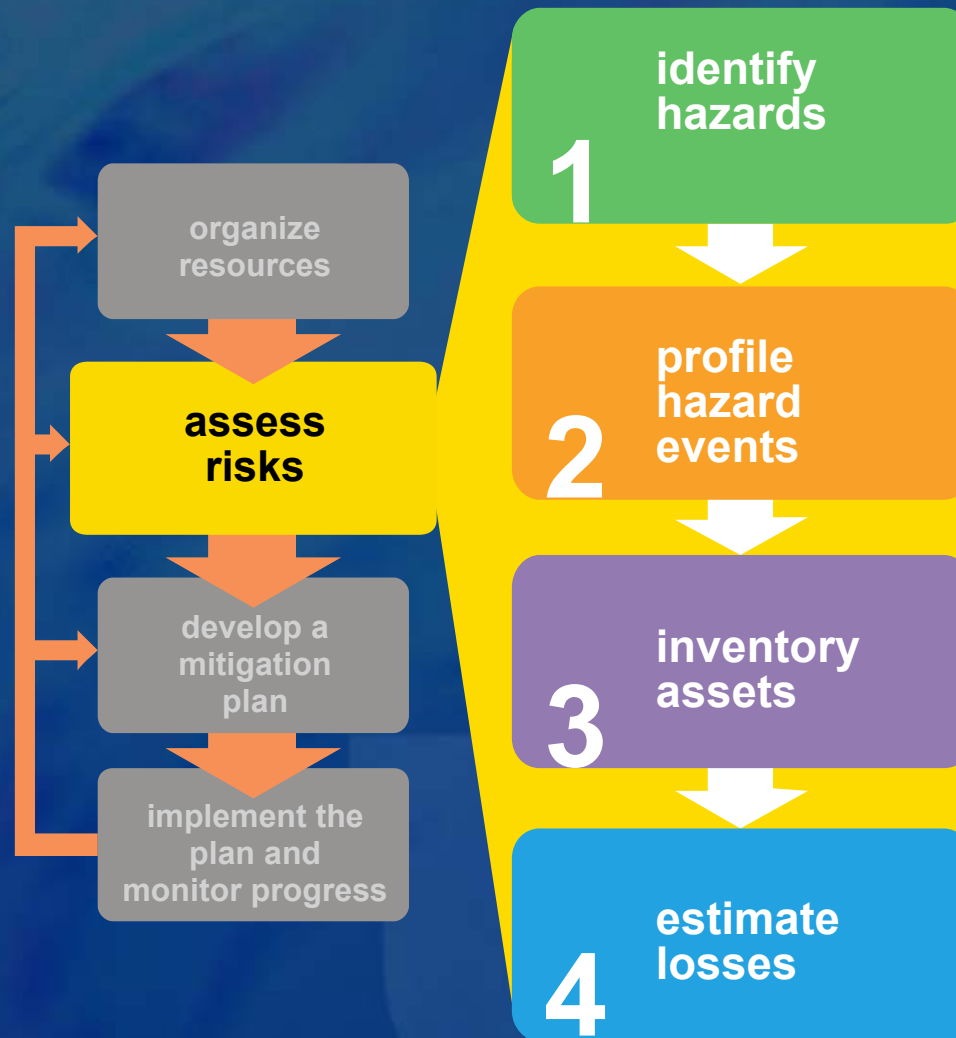
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# Phase 1: Organize Resources



# Phase 2: Assess Risks





# Phase 4: Implement the Plan and Monitor Progress

